



HR0740

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to honor Reg Weaver, President of
4 the National Education Association, on being inducted into the
5 Illinois Labor History Society Union Hall of Honor; and

6 WHEREAS, Reg Weaver is the son of a coal mining family from
7 Danville; he did his school teaching in Harvey; he is known for
8 his leadership abilities, which took him to the presidency of
9 the Illinois Education Association; he is now President of the
10 National Education Association, with 3.2.million members; and
11 he is well known as a brilliant public speaker; and

12 WHEREAS, He served as president of his local in Harvey, as
13 president of the NEA affiliate in Illinois, and travels
14 nationally and internationally, working tirelessly as an
15 ambassador for public education and advocating for the basic
16 right of every student to attend a great public school; in
17 2006, he made a landmark visit to the Lincoln Cathedral in
18 England, home to a very rare copy of the Magna Carta, that was
19 met with widespread acclaim; in recognition of his commitment
20 to democracy and fundamental freedoms, the Cathedral recently
21 unveiled a stone column in his name; and

22 WHEREAS, Reg Weaver was awarded an honorary Doctor of

1 Humane Letters in 2006 from Shaw University; he was also
2 conferred with an honorary Doctor of Public Service by South
3 Carolina State University at its 2007 Spring Commencement for
4 "his example of service that benefits us all"; he serves as
5 vice president of Education International, a 348-member
6 organization representing more than 29 million teachers and
7 education workers in 169 countries; he travels to meetings of
8 Education International and national education unions around
9 the world; and

10 WHEREAS, Reg Weaver has also addressed conferences and
11 forums sponsored by numerous national organizations, including
12 the U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association for the
13 Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Council of La
14 Raza (NCLR), Rainbow Push Coalition, League of United Latin
15 Citizens (LULAC), ASPIRA, and ACORN; he is an honorary life
16 member of the National Parent Teachers Association; he served
17 on the Illinois State Board of Education's Blue Ribbon
18 Committee on the Improvement of Teaching as a Profession, the
19 Illinois Commission for the Improvement of Elementary and
20 Secondary Education, the Administrator's Academy, the Illinois
21 Project for School Reform Advisory Council, the North Central
22 Regional Educational Laboratory Advisory Committee, the Joint
23 Committee on Minority Student Achievement, the Illinois
24 Literacy Council, and the Task Force on At-Risk Youth; and

1 WHEREAS, He has been named one of Ebony magazine's 100 Most
2 Influential Black Americans for his national influence; his
3 recent honors include the 2007 MALDEF Excellence in Leadership
4 Award; the 2006 Chairman's Award for Educational Leadership
5 presented by 100 Black Men of America Inc.; and the
6 Congressional Black Caucus Education Braintrust's 2006 Great
7 Points of Light Award; he was the recipient of the 2005 Spirit
8 of Liberty Award presented by People for the American Way as
9 well as the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute's 2006 George
10 Meany Latino Leadership Award; he has also been honored with
11 the USAction Progressive Leadership Award, the National
12 Conference of Black Mayors President's Award, the Ebony
13 Influential Black Educators Award, and the Illinois Education
14 Association's Human Relations Award; and

15 WHEREAS, Reg Weaver is listed on the Danville High School
16 Wall of Fame and serves as an honorary member of the advisory
17 board for the Department of Educational Leadership at Roosevelt
18 University, which is his alma mater; he earned his bachelor of
19 science degree in special education for the physically
20 challenged at Illinois State University and received a master's
21 degree from Roosevelt University in Chicago; and

22 WHEREAS, Reg Weaver will be the Guest Speaker and will be
23 inducted into the Union Hall of Honor at the Illinois Labor
24 History Society Annual Awards Dinner to be held on November 2,

1 2007 in Oak Brook; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
4 congratulate Reg Weaver and wish him the best in his future
5 endeavors; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Reg Weaver as a symbol of our respect and esteem.